

Basic Strategy

- hand-off the ball to a **running back** and run it
- pass the ball to a **receiver**, who runs a **pass pattern**
- if it is 3rd down (your last chance!) and you are close enough, place kick the ball for a **field goal**
- if it is 3rd down and you are too far to kick a **field goal**, **punt** (a standing-up kick) the ball as far as possible to the other team
- if it is 3rd down and you are close to getting 10 yards (or a "**first down**") you can take a chance and go for it... but if you don't make it, the other team gets the ball!

Other Things You Should Know

- Play will stop when:
 - a) the player who has the ball is tackled to the ground
 - b) a forward pass is not caught by anyone
- Play will continue when:
 - a) **Fumble**: a player drops the ball (except for dropping a pass)
 - b) **Interception**: a pass is caught by the other team
 - c) **Lateral**: any pass that is thrown backwards
(play will continue if a lateral is dropped!)
- A forward **Pass** must be thrown overhand
- A **Turnover** is when you give up possession of the ball to the other team
- If a **touchdown** is scored, the scoring team must **kickoff** to the other team

